Astoria Scandinavian MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL

June 20, 21 & 22, 2025
Astoria, Oregon

Clatsop County Fairgrounds
AstoriaScanFest.com

2025 Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Court

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Velkommen, Tervetuloa, Velkomin

We want to welcome everyone to join us for our 58th annual Scandinavian Midsummer Festival! Astoria's Midsummer Festival is a traditional Nordic celebration that takes place near the summer solstice to coincide with the longest day of the year. After a long rainy winter, warm summer days are welcomed. That's why the Astoria Midsummer Festival always takes place the 3rd full weekend every June.

Through the years we've built a history of melding together Nordic traditions, encompassing the Danes, Norwegians, Finns, Icelanders, and Swedes, while learning interesting facts about each country and more importantly, the history of Nordic immigrants. Many Astorians are the descendants of these Nordic immigrants.

Having celebrated together for more than half a century, we always look forward to sharing our heritage with all, just for a weekend. Enjoy over 60 craft and food booths, music, and dancing.

The Viking encampment, parade of native folk wear, the Midsummer Pole raising and ring dances, Barnefest children's carnival, our church service, the beer garden, Icelandic horses and the eating contests are not to be missed. Join in the raffle and win a fantastic prize. Attendance is not necessary to win. This year's entertainment includes Eeppi Ursin, a singer songwriter originally from Finland visiting us from New York City and the nationally renowned Lindsborg Swedish Dancers from Kansas. Both featured entertainers will perform throughout the weekend along with some local favorites the Brownsmead Flats, the Astor Street Opry and Coreen Bergholm & Scandinavian Country Band.

Carla Oja
ASMFA President

Everyone is welcome to join us on Friday, June 20 at the Clatsop County Fairgrounds for the kickoff of the weekend festivities! Fairground booths will be open from 2:00-6:30 PM on Friday. The crowning of Miss Scandinavia 2025 begins at 7:00 PM on Friday evening with the Queen's coronation. Another fun tradition not to be missed is the bonfire and hex burning. Everyone is invited to place all your worries and anxieties in a straw hex you're given as you follow the court outside. Toss your worries into the bonfire and celebrate with us as we kick off with dance music, food and laughter.

We can't wait to see you there!

Thank you, Kiitos, och Tak ska du ha!

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Beer Garden

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Grand Marshals

2025 Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival

Kevin & Bern Ladd

Kevin & Bern Ladd
2025 Grand Marshals

It is an honor and a privilege to serve as this year's Grand Marshals for Astoria's 58th Midsummer Festival.

For me, Kevin, the Scandinavian Midsummer Festival journey began when my parents, Bonnie and Dave Ladd, answered a newspaper ad that read: "Teach your kids Scandinavian Folk Dancing." I was the youngest of three boys—and since they were short on male dancers—I was thrown into the mix at just three years old. I still remember performing when the festival was held at the fairgrounds, in what's now the downtown swimming pool location.

Ella and her daughter, Doreen Simonson, led our dance group for a few years before stepping away. That's when my mom, Bonnie, and Carolyn Knapp took the reins. As we kids grew older, the group naturally split: the Nordics (2nd–6th grade) and the Vikings (7th–12th grade). Not long after, the parents wanted in on the fun too—and so, the Scandias were formed.

A couple of years after high school, I started dating Bern. She had no idea what she was getting into with all the dancing and the festival—but she embraced it wholeheartedly. We married in 1992.

A few years later, a group of us began discussing how to create a special area at the festival just for children—with games, face painting, and storytelling. With the help of Brenda and Chuck Higgins, Susan Jackson, Roberta and Bern Ladd, and myself, we launched Barnefest in 1997. Since then, Bern has led Barnefest, creating joy for generations of children. She's also a member of the Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Association and currently serves as President of the Viking Nordic Scandia Dance Group.

In 2005, I stepped into my mom's shoes as Dance Instructor, working alongside Bev Hoofnagle until her retirement in 2020. Over the past 50 years, more than 500 children and adults have participated in our dance groups.

Each festival feels like a family reunion. We reconnect with relatives, old friends, and former dancers. And whether you're a longtime attendee or here for your very first Midsummer celebration – welcome to the family. We hope you'll return next year and help keep the tradition alive.

Sponsors

2025 Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival

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Scandia Club **$1,000 - $2,499**

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Viking Club **$500 - $999**

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Coreen Bergholm
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Sons of Norway, Nidaros Lodge #16

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Gerry Swenson
Daniel & Marja-Leena Casey
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Sisu Brewing

Thank you Bruce Smith for providing sound!

58th Annual Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival

June 20, 21 and 22, 2025 • Clatsop County Fairgrounds

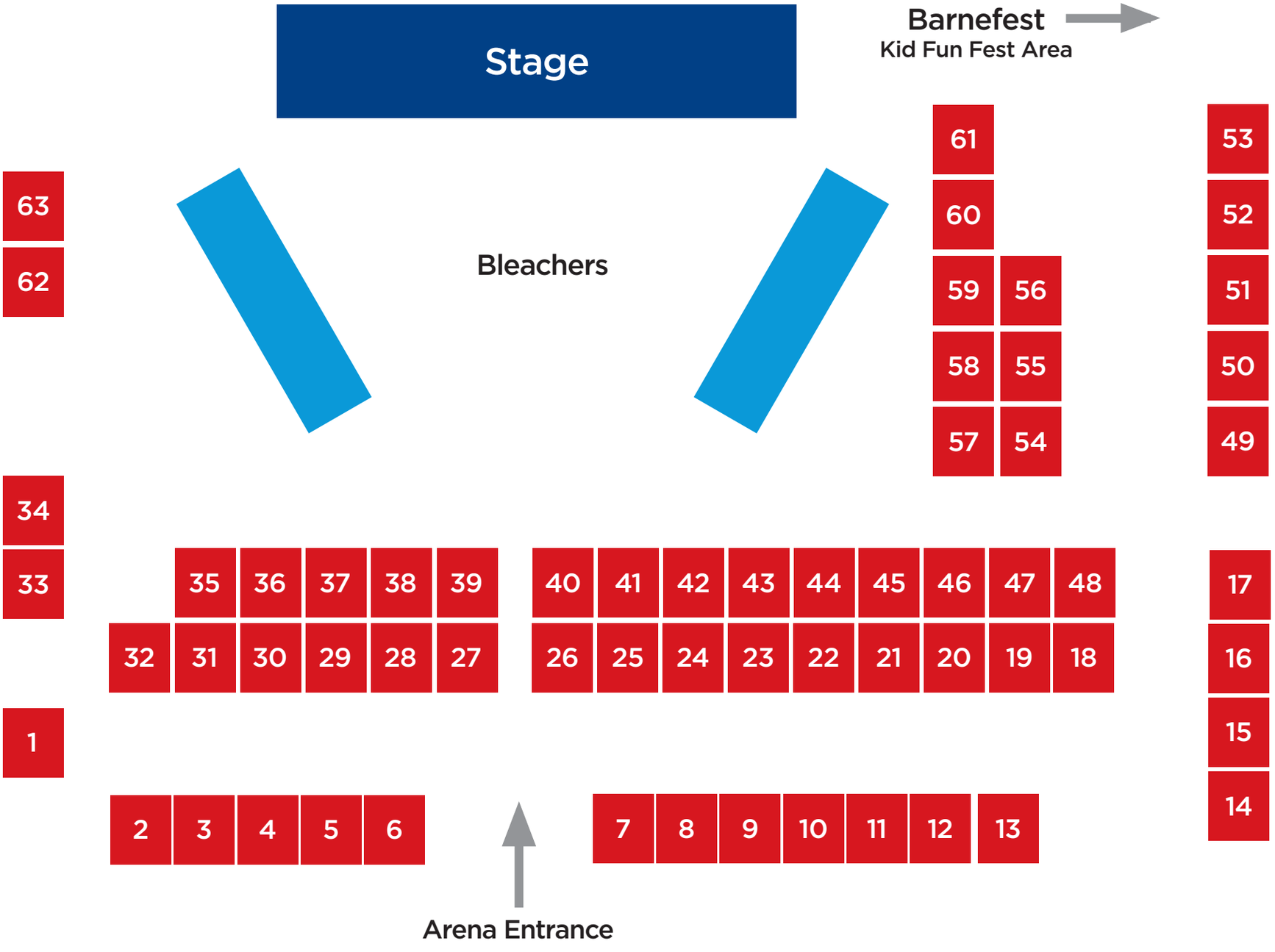
Three-day wristbands are $10 for adults and $4 for kids ages 6 to 12, free admission for kids 5 and under. Fairgrounds parking is $5 for the weekend.

www.AstoriaScanFest.com

Vendor booth map

2025 Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival

The Arena at Clatsop County Fairgrounds in Astoria



Vendors

2025 Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival

1. Friends of Soumi Hall Auxiliary
2. LC Danish Society
3. Astor Lodge #215
4. Carved Wooden Treasures
5. French Cat Studio
6. Scandinavian & Rustic Design
7. Finn Ware
8. Folk Art of Norway
9. Davis Brothers Metal Art
10. Secret Dragon Collectibles
11. Oregon Coast Soaps
12. Bethany Sandness Caricature Artist
13. Nomadic Artistry
14. Creative Concepts Inc
15. Peg Johnson Pottery
16. Frite & Scoop
17. CJ's Creative Memories
18. Pilgram's Roasted Nutz
19. Nordiskal
20. Needle'N On
21. Alder Breeze Creations
22. Lacy Gifts
23. Nikole Ray Peacock Artistry
24. Steve & Audrey Ullakko
25. Sons of Norway Nidaros Lodge
26. RAFFLE BOOTH
27. INFORMATION/ SOUVENIR BOOTH
28. Annie's Jammies
29. Hygge Chocolates
30. Linked by Ava Jo
31. Decorative Painting
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33. R&L Imports, LLC
34. Clew Bay Leather & 3D Painting
35. Linens, Inc.
36. Nordic Trader
37. Oran Mor Artisan Mead, LLC
38. Astoria Family Search Ctr.
39. ASMFA Info/Souvenir Booth
40. ASMFA Raffle Booth
41. Daugjter's of Norway
42. Muddy Feet Pottery
43. Brevin's Fudge
44. JT's Horney Trinkets
45. Double Cross Stitching
46. Hargjrland Av Gamla Damek
47. Black Lotus Art
48. Darkmoon Faire
49. Stillweather Spirits
50. East ó the Sun, West ó the Moon
51. Barnyard Bliss
52. Oregon Midsummer Festival
53. St. Brendon's Church
54. Viking Krafts, Sable Fleur Designs
55. Solfiskur
56. Sea Hag's Mercantile
57. Aiti Workshop
58. Scandinavian Café
59. Easy to Please Grilled Cheese
60. Renewal by Andersen
61. Peace 1st Lutheran Church
62. Viking/Nordic Dance Group
63. Chimnik

Note: Vendor Locations may be subject to change

Event schedule

2025 Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival

Friday, June 20

Arena

2:00 - 6:30 Booths open

2:45 - 3:30 Lindsborg Swedish Folk Dancers from Kansas

4:00 - 5:15 Skamokawa Swamp Opera

5:45 - 6:30 Eeppi Ursin

7:00 - 8:15 2025 CORONATION

Exhibit Hall

4:00 - 5:30 Polka Dots (accordion music)

4:30 - 7:00 Mermaids and Trolls Dinner by Scandinavian Cafe

8:30 - 10:00 Queen's Ball with Coreen Bergholm & Scandinavian Country, accompanied by Ryan Phillips on accordion

Outside

2:00 - 6:00 Taylor Icelandic Horses (in Horse Arena)

8:15 - 8:45 Torchlight Parade to Bonfire and Hex Burning, violin by Audrey Cereghino

Beer Garden

3:00 - 10:00 Beer Garden OPEN

4:00 - 6:00 Beer Babes

Saturday, June 21

Arena

9:00 - 7:00 Booths OPEN

9:00 - 9:45 Lindsborg Swedish Folk Dancers from Kansas

10 - 10:45 Viking Nordic Scandia Dancers from Astoria

11:00 - 11:45 Eeppi Ursin

12:00 - 12:45 Leikarringen Dancers of Portland

1:00 - 1:45 Brownsmead Flats

2:00 - 2:45 VASA Swedish Dancers from Portland

3:00 - 3:45 Eeppi Ursin

4:00 - 4:45 Lindsborg Swedish Folk Dancers from Kansas

5:00 - 5:45 Brownsmead Flats

6:00 - 6:45 Eeppi Ursin

Exhibit Hall

8:00 - 11:00 Midnight Sun Breakfast by Scandinavian Cafe

8:30 - 9:15 Dick Carlson on Accordion & Todd Carlson on String Bass

9:30 - 10:15 Polka Dots (accordion music)

1:00 - 2:30 Nordic Accordion Band

2:45 -3:15 Olio Acts by Astor Street Opry Co.

3:15 - 3:45 Parade of Native Folkwear and Sweaters

3:45 - 4:30 Viking Nordic Scandia Dancers from Astoria

4:00 - 7:00 Viking Dinner by Scandinavian Cafe

4:45 - 5:30 Swedish Meatball and Æbleskiver Eating Contests

5:30 - 6:15 Olio Acts by Astor Street Opry Co.

6:45 - 9:00 NORDIC STOMP! Coreen Bergholm & Scandinavian Country Band

Saturday, June 21 (continued)

Outside

7:00 - 8:00 Troll Run Registration in Lobby

8:30 Running of the Trolls

9:00 - 4:00 Taylor Icelandic Horses (in Horse Arena)

10:00 - 7:00 Empire of Chivalry & Steel Viking Encampment

11:30 - 12:00 Optog Walking Parade through Fairgrounds

12 - 12:30 Flag Raising Ceremony (near Midsummer Pole)

12:30 - 1:15 Raising of the Midsummer Pole

Learn traditional rings dances with the VASA Swedish Dancers, the Lindsborg Swedish Folk Dancers, and the Viking Nordic Scandia Dancers music by the Polka Dots

1:15 - 2:00 Tug of War (by Midsummer Pole)

1:00 Viking Demonstration by Empire of Chivalry & Steel - Fiber Arts & Textiles

2:00 Viking Demonstration by Empire of Chivalry & Steel - Combat

3:00 Viking Demonstration by Empire of Chivalry & Steel - Chainmail

5:00 Viking Demonstration by Empire of Chivalry & Steel – Fireside Storytelling from the Norse Sagas

Beer Garden

11:00 - 10:00 Beer Garden OPEN

1:00 - 1:45 Olio Acts by ASOC

3:15- 3:45 Olio Acts by ASOC

4:00 - 5:00 Beer Babes (Accordion Group)

Sunday, June 22

Arena

9:00 - 3:00 Booths Open
9:00 - 9:45 Polka Dots (accordion music)
10 - 10:45 Eeppi Ursin
12 - 12:45 Lindsborg Swedish Folk Dancers from Kansas
1:00 - 1:45 Viking Nordic Scandia Dancers from Astoria
2:00 - 3:00 Raffle Drawing

Exhibit Hall

8:00 - 11:00 Sisu Breakfast by Scandinavian Cafe
8:30 - 9:15 Dick Carlson on Accordion & Todd Carlson on String Bass
9:30 - 10:30 Music by Bobbie Ferrero and Friends
11:00 - 12:00 Nordic Non-denominational Church Service
12:30 - 1:15 Swedish Meatball and Æbleskiver Eating Contests
1:45 - 2:30 Viking Nordic Scandia Dancers REUNION DANCE – ALL WELCOME
2:30 - 3:00 Closing Ceremony

Outside

9:00 - 3:00 Taylor Icelandic Horses (in Horse Arena)
10:00 - 3:00 Empire of Chivalry & Steel Viking Encampment
12:00 Viking Demonstration by Empire of Chivalry & Steel – Fiber Arts & Textiles
1:00 Viking Demonstration by Empire of Chivalry & Steel - Combat
2:00 Viking Demonstration by Empire of Chivalry & Steel - Chainmail
3:00 2025 Festival Ends ~ See you next year!

58th Annual Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival

Three-day wristbands are $10 for adults and $4 for kids ages 6 to 12, free admission for kids 5 and under. Fairgrounds parking is $5 for the weekend.

For more information go to: www.AstoriaScanFest.com

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2025 Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Junior Court

JR. COURT CHAPERONE

Megan Schacher

Megan is a nurse in Seaside. On her days off Megan enjoys spending her time outdoors and traveling. She has been involved in the festival her whole life and has a strong connection to her Finnish heritage. Megan served as Senior Miss Finland in 2017 and went on to be crowned as Miss Scandinavia. Megan and her mom Melissa, Senior Court Chaperone this year, recently traveled to Finland to visit relatives and their family's homestead.

2025 Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Junior Court

JUNIOR MISS DENMARK

Luna Roberts

Luna is in 3rd grade at Encore Academy and is sponsored by the Lower Columbia Danish Society. She enjoys all different kinds of dance along with painting and drawing. Her Scandinavian heritage comes from both sides of her family. At the festival, she enjoys all the food and activities, as well as watching the singing and dancing.

2025 Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Junior Court

JUNIOR MISS FINLAND

Hannah Martin

Hannah is in 5th grade, attends Vose Elementary in Beaverton, Ore., and is sponsored by Friends of Suomi Hall. In addition to her Finnish heritage, she has Norwegian, Swedish, and Danish heritage. Hannah plays softball, participates in Cub Scouts, and plays the ukulele. She is excited to make new friendships and learn about her heritage this year on the court.

2025 Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Junior Court

JUNIOR MISS NORWAY

Ava Pauline Kryzanek

Jr. Miss Norway 2025 is Ava. She attends Lewis and Clark Elementary in 5th grade and is sponsored by the Sons of Norway Nidaros Lodge. Ava has Norwegian, Swedish, and Danish heritage. She has been a Viking Nordic dancer for three years now, she enjoys musicals, art, and soccer. One of Ava's favorite memories from the festival is watching her cousin, Molly Oien, be crowned Miss Scandinavia 2023. She also enjoys eating lefse and shopping at all of the booths at the festivals.

2025 Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Junior Court

JUNIOR MISS SWEDEN

Amelia Kingsley Harper

Jr. Miss Sweden 2025 is Amelia. She is in 2nd grade at Astor Elementary and is sponsored by VASA Swedish Lodge #215. She is very involved with her Swedish heritage, her sister was Jr Miss Sweden in 2015. Amelia loves animals and playing soccer. She is excited to participate in parades and represent her Swedish heritage.

2025 Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Junior Court

CROWN BEARER

Jameson Landwehr

Jameson attends Lewis and Clark Elementary and has Swedish, Danish, and Norwegian heritage on his dad's side and Norwegian and Finnish heritage on his mom's side. His father was Crown Bearer in 1999 and his aunt was Senior Miss Denmark in 2015. Jameson looks forward to the festival every year, he enjoys eating all the foods – Swedish meatballs, fruit soup, lefse, and abelskivers (but especially when his Grandma Mindy makes them).

Midsummer Festival Court

Photos by Chris Kryzanek Photography

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2025 Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Senior Court

SR. COURT CHAPERONE

Melissa Schacher

Melissa works for the Clatsop Care Center Health District. She has been involved in the festival since she was a kid. She has fond memories of running around the festival back when it was at the high school, eating the very Scandinavian elephant ears. Melissa has been a junior and senior princess on the court, been a judge, on the princess committee, and volunteers in the Finnish booth. She was crowned Miss Scandinavia 1991.

2025 Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Senior Court

SENIOR MISS DENMARK

Emily Herzberg

Emily is a Senior at Astoria High School and is sponsored by the Lower Columbia Danish Society. Emily participates in high school theater and enjoys art. She plans on attending Southern Oregon University after high school, majoring in art and minoring in psychology. Emily's Danish heritage comes from her mom's side of the family. In the past, Emily has volunteered in the Danish booth. She is excited to make new friendships and connect with her heritage.

2025 Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Senior Court

SENIOR MISS FINLAND

Olivia Atkinson

Olivia is a Senior and attends Astoria High School and is sponsored by Friends of Suomi Hall. Olivia plans on attending college to study geology. A fun fact about Olivia is that she is an identical twin! Her family is from the Oulu region of Finland. She has been involved in the festival in the past; helping with the setting up, taking down, and hex burning and she is excited to be involved in a new way.

2025 Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Senior Court

SENIOR MISS ICELAND

Ava Thornton

Ava is a Senior at Warrenton High School and is representing Iceland as Senior Miss Iceland at this year's festival. After high school she plans on attending Clatsop Community College, then transferring to Southern Oregon University. Ava enjoys theater and soccer. Her Scandinavian heritage comes from her grandfather. At the festival, she enjoys the food and dancing. Ava is excited to learn more about her Icelandic heritage.

2025 Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Senior Court

SENIOR MISS NORWAY

Signe Rickenbach

Signe is a Senior at Astoria High School and is sponsored by the Sons of Norway Nidaros Lodge. Signe is a part of her school's OHSET team, participates in FFA, and enjoys riding horses and dirt bikes. She plans to attend Clatsop Community College and transfer to OSU to study Construction Management. Signe has Norwegian, Swedish, and Finnish heritage in her family. She enjoys Scandinavian dancing at the festival.

2025 Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Senior Court

SENIOR MISS SWEDEN

Olive Thompson

Olive is a Senior at Astoria High School and is sponsored by VASA Swedish Lodge #215. After graduation, Olive plans on attending university to study biology/pre-med and then attend a post-grad anesthesiology program. Olive's Scandinavian heritage comes from both sides of her family and is a mix of Swedish, Norwegian, and Finnish. Her favorite part about the Scandinavian festival is spending time with her family celebrating their heritage and watching the dancers.

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Miss Scandinavia 2024

Audrey Cereghino

The reigning Miss Scandinavia is Audrey Cereghino, a Senior at Astoria High School. After graduation, she plans on attending George Fox. Audrey was a Viking Nordic dancer and has been involved with volunteering with her family at many festivals. She has Swedish, Danish, and Norwegian heritage. Last year's festival was her favorite one yet; she made many close friendships and memories and is excited to make more this year!

Running of the Trolls

2025 Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival

The Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival is pleased to announce the 19th Annual Running of the Trolls run/walk!

Participate in a 1.5 mile run/walk, 3.0 mile run/walk, or 5.75 mile run in the beautiful Olney countryside.

Proceeds from the race benefit the Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Association Scholarship Fund.

The Races starts at 8:30 a.m., Saturday, June 22, 2024, from the Clatsop County Fairgrounds parking lot. Check in 7 to 8 a.m. at the fairgrounds entrance.

Prizes will be awarded to first and second place finishers in the 5.75 mile run.

Cost:

Option #1 $25.00: Troll Run Registration and Troll Run T-shirt

Option #2 $25.00: Troll Run Registration and 3 Day Admission to Festival

Option #3 $35.00: Troll Run Registration, Troll Run T-shirt, and 3 Day Admission to Festival

Register online at:

astoriascanfest.com/events/troll-run-walk or download and print the form and send it with a check to Troll Run, ASMFA, PO Box 34, Astoria OR 97103.

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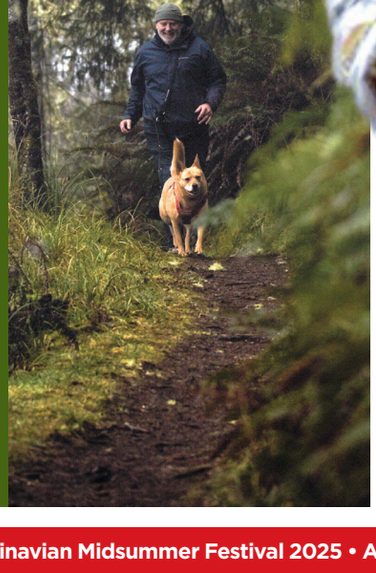

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Festival Entertainment

2025 Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival

Featuring Eeppi Ursin

Eeppi Ursin is a New York -based platinum-selling, award-winning singer-songwriter, jazz vocalist, composer, arranger and pianist originally from Finland. Ursin is known for her angelic-strong voice and exceptional skill set ranging from top-class performance to writing music for various groups. Her stage presence combines warmth, style, humor and virtuosity. Her recordings and performances as a singer vary from pop, jazz, dance, a cappella and children's music.

Eeppi has released six solo albums of which the latest is a Finnish-American Christmas album Eeppinen Joulu – Epic Christmas (Eeppi Ursin 2024). In 2023 she released her hit album My Finnish Soul, which consists of well-known Finnish folk and rock classics as Eeppi's stripped-down vocal-piano versions. In 2022 she released a true-to-form album Speechless which is a luscious combination of pop, soul and singer-songwriter traditions. Prior to that Eeppi has released three solo albums where she stands out as an artist with a strong and unique yet catching pop sound: Violet (Buckshotmusic 2005), Yellow Page Girl (Buckshotmusic 2009) and Jäljet (Luomusic 2017) followed by numerous radio hit-singles. In addition to her solo albums Eeppi appears on over 40 recordings of which five are platinum- or gold-selling albums.

Throughout her career Eeppi has captivated audiences all around the world performing as a vocal soloist at prestigious venues with acclaimed artists such as trumpeter Leroy Jones and Spirit of New Orleans, Vocal Ensemble Club For Five, and UMO Jazz Orchestra, to name a few. Eeppi also collaborates with renowned theaters and modern opera ensembles as a composer and arranger.

In 2022 Eeppi was chosen as Performer of the year by Finlandia Foundation National – a nomination that sent her on a 17-concert tour performing at venues all around the United States. In 2014 she was chosen to perform as the soloist at the President's Independence Day Reception in Finland. In 2001 she won the first prize in the Lady Summertime international jazz vocal competition. Eeppi Ursin is also the American Scandinavian Society Cultural Grant -recipient along with many other recognitions and grants.

Eeppi will be performing on the arena stage Friday and Saturday evening.

Brownsmead Flats

The Brownsmead Flats, from Brownsmead, Oregon, play acoustic music that may be best described as “Crabgrass”, which they liken to a folk/bluegrass style with a maritime flavor. The group has been making music together since 1984. The band has a strong focus on vocal harmonies and many of their songs are composed by members of the group. Dan Sutherland is featured on the hammered dulcimer, fiddle, and mandolin. Ray Raihala plays piano, banjo, guitar and mandolin. Ned Heavenrich plays harmonica and guitar. Larry Moore is featured on the mandolin and Randy Weese will share his fine flatpicking guitar style and mandolin playing. John Fenton, on bass, keeps the group together with his solid rhythmic tempos.

A bit of history

Thousands of Scandinavians came to Astoria and surrounding areas in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, seeking work in the fishing and logging industries and in the canneries. The earliest documented summer gathering of Nordic immigrants in Astoria took place in 1938. Other historical sources refer to gatherings centered around folk dance in the 1950s and 1960s. The first documented source that refers to the summer festivities as the Scandinavian Midsummer Festival is from 1968.

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Festival Entertainment

2025 Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival

Polka Dots

The POLKA DOTS formed in the fall of 2018 at the suggestion of Astoria's veteran accordionist Coreen Bergholm to provide live traditional music for the Fort George Benefit Night for the Nordic Heritage Park. This North Coast combo whose members are all of Scandinavian heritage has special enthusiasm for Northern European dance music. Members include Nancy Word and Ruby McCord on accordion and Noel Rydbom on string bass. The Polka Dots will perform all three days of the Midsummer Festival in a variety of locations.

Skamokawa Swamp Opera

Skamokawa Swamp Opera is an eclectic folk band from Wahkiakum County, Washington. All four members, Erik Friend, Andrew Emlen, Wren Hendriks, and Kyleen Austin, are vocalists and multi-instrumentalists. They perform on cello, guitar, banjo, harmonica, mandocello, percussion, mandolin, and melodica and draw from a wide variety of musical genres from pop to opera. In 2013 they put together a show of songs by and about the people of the lower Columbia River which included songs from each of the major immigrant groups; they have since been regular favorites at the Finnish-American Festival, as well as performing for the Finnish Brotherhood at the Suomi Hall in Astoria, the Fisher Poets Gathering, the Vancouver Music & Arts Festival, and Pickathon. They will perform music from each of the Scandinavian countries as well as original music centered on life along the Columbia.

Olio Acts by Astor Street Opry Co.

The Astor Street Opry Company will return to perform at the 58th Annual Midsummer Festival. Catch your favorite olio acts from Shanghaied in Astoria and go ahead and admit that you know the words and sing along! There will be four shows, two in the Exhibit Hall and two in the Beer Garden on Saturday. Get there early to grab a seat as these shows are always standing room only. Admission is free with a festival wrist band.

Coreen Bergholm & Scandinavian Country Band

Coreen immigrated to Astoria from North Dakota in the 1960s and learned the Scandinavian repertoire from her mentors Sven Sundstrom and Joergen Madsen. As a "snow bird," Coreen spent 17 winters leading an accordion band at the Yuma (Arizona) Sons of Norway.

Scandinavian Country plays the local favorite dances like the Varsouvienne and the Butterfly as well as polkas, schottisches, waltzes, and hambos. The band even plays the Chicken Dance and the Hokey Pokey!

The musicians in the Scandinavian Country in addition to Coreen include Bobbie Fererro and Ryan Phillips on accordion, John Orr on guitar, David Graves on percussion, Susan Hinton on euphonium/baby tuba, and Todd Carlson on bass.

Scandinavian Country will play for the Queen's Ball on Friday evening after the Coronation, and again on Saturday evening for the Nordic Stomp. The Nordic Stomp is a new event this year that encourages everyone, whether amateur or skilled, to come and show off your dance moves.

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Festival Entertainment

2025 Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival

Featuring the Lindsborg Swedish Folk Dancers

The Lindsborg Swedish Folk Dancers (LSFD) is a group of high school dancers and musicians living in the small rural Kansas community of Lindsborg (founded by Swedish settlers) who are dedicated to promoting the study and appreciation of traditional Swedish folk dance and music. Founded in 1963, the group performs at local celebrations such as the Midsummer's Festival, Svensk Hyllningsfest, St. Lucia Festival, and other local events throughout the year.

Members of LSFD procure their own costumes, choosing from authentic Swedish provincial designs. Accompanied by the group's own musicians, the dancers learn and master authentic Swedish and Scandinavian dances. Known as ambassadors for their hometown, the group is recognized as one of the premier Swedish folk dance groups in the United States. Every four years, LSFD travels internationally with a performance tour across Scandinavia.

The Lindsborg dancers will perform throughout the weekend and will be featured in the Parade of Native Folk wear on Saturday afternoon.

Leikarringen Dancers of Portland

Leikarringen of Portland is a performing dance group focusing on Scandinavian Dances. New members are always welcome. Leikarringen has performed at the Astoria Midsummer Festival for many decades. They are a fun and lively group who will perform only once on Saturday.

Vasa Rosebuds Swedish Dancers

The Vasa Rosebuds are a children's Swedish Dance group based in Portland, Oregon. Their dancers range in age from 2 years to 18 years and are from the Portland metro area as well as Southwest Washington. They routinely perform in Midsummer celebrations in Portland, Astoria, and Junction City. And recently traveled internationally to dance and participate in Midsummer celebrations in Sweden and Canada. The Vasa Rosebuds will help lead the public in learning the Swedish ring dances after the Midsummer Pole raising on Saturday beginning at noon. All are encouraged to join in the fun.

Viking Nordic Scandia Dancers

The Viking Nordic Scandia Dancers, from Astoria, will perform on all three days of the Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival at the fairgrounds. This dance group includes dancers from second grade to adults. The NORDIC DANCERS are the youngest group and several members are performing at their first midsummer festival. Experienced teen-age dancers make up the VIKING DANCERS who are frequently joined by the adults from the SCANDIA DANCERS. The VIKING NORDIC SCANDIA DANCERS were formed in 1971 and are led by Kevin and Bernadeth Ladd.

Taylor Icelandic Horses

Jackie and Larry Taylor from Yelm, Washington

Jackie and Larry Taylor from Yelm, Washington

Jackie and Larry Taylor of Yelm, Washington, will show their Icelandic horses in the horse arena next to the Midsummer Pole.

Icelandic horses are a pure breed that developed in Iceland, with the first arriving aboard the Viking ships of Norse Settlers between 860 and 935 AD. The horses are mostly pony-sized but are still called horses. They are short backed and can carry a two-hundred-and-twenty-five-pound man. They are long-lived and hardy and have unusual gaits. Jackie and Larry will provide demonstrations of these attractive animals and the Taylor family will answer your questions. There will be bleachers by the horse arena so you can sit a spell and admire the beautiful Icelandic horses in the arena.

58th Annual Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival

June 20, 21 and 22, 2025 • Clatsop County Fairgrounds

Three-day wristbands are $10 for adults and $4 for kids ages 6 to 12, free admission for kids 5 and under. Fairgrounds parking is $5 for the weekend.

For more information go to: www.AstoriaScanFest.com

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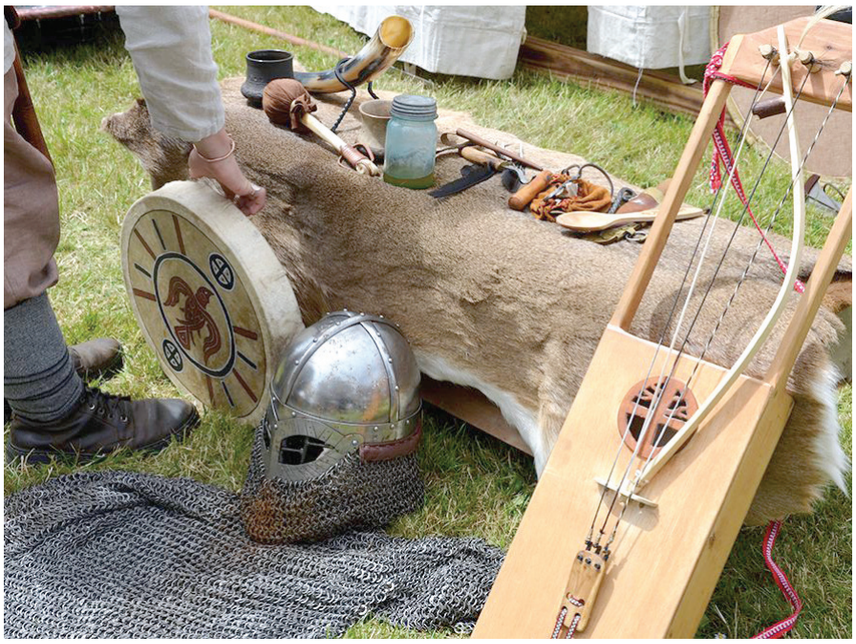
Festival Entertainment

2025 Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival



Empire of Chivalry & Steel Viking Encampment

The EMPIRE OF CHIVALRY AND STEEL specializes in the recreation of the culture of the Middle Ages, including the art forms, events (feasts, tournaments, ceremonies and wars), and combat arts from that period. The purpose of this nonprofit educational corporation is to study (and teach the general public) ideals and history from 800 AD to 1650 AD within the geographical boundaries of Europe and to provide an organized effort in the collection, interpretations and distribution of historical data through publication and demonstration.

Empire of Chivalry and Steel participants will open their Viking Encampment to the public on Saturday and Sunday and provide demonstrations of Viking Fiber Arts & Textiles, Viking combat, and Viking chainmail. New this year on Saturday only at 5 p.m. is Fireside Storytelling from the Norse Sagas.

Also performing at the festival:

Dick Carlson on Accordion & Todd Carlson on String Bass
Music by Bobbie Ferrero and Friends, Astoria, Oregon
Ryan Phillips Accordionist, Astoria Oregon

Jamay Hadley

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